

MATURE READERS

GABBORIN LOGAN PERRELET

1 DIGITAL RELEASE

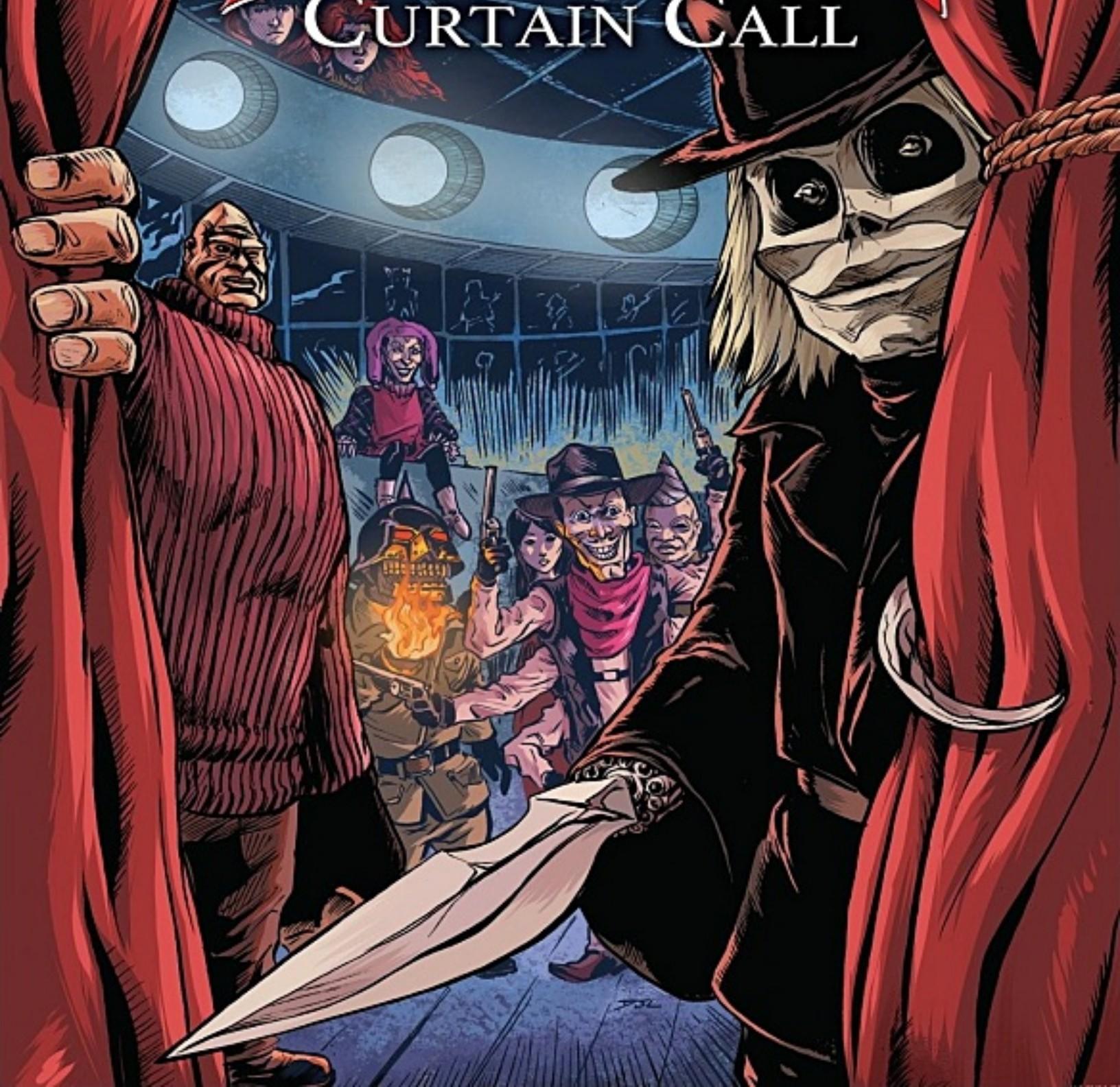


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CHARLES BAND'S

PUPPET MASTER

CURTAIN CALL



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PART ONE

**WRITTEN BY:
SHAWN GABBORIN**

**ART BY:
DANIEL J. LOGAN**

**COLORS BY:
YANN PERRELET**

Jason Martin: Publisher

Shawn Gabborin: Editor in Chief

Nicole D'Andria: Marketing Director/Editor

Jim Dietz: Social Media Manager

Danielle Davison: Executive Administrator

Bryan Seaton: CEO

Shawn Pryor: President of Creator Relations

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AREN'T THEY
FANTASTIC?







IT SEEMS
NOT. THIS OLD
BASTARD IS STILL
BREATHING.





THAT IS NOT HOW
I LIKE TO START
MY DAY.

BOULDESTON INSTITUTE
FOR MENTALLY TROUBLED TOTS AND TEENS

I'VE GOT THIS... THING.
AN ABILITY? A SUPER-
POWER? I DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO CALL IT.

I SEE
THINGS.

I SEE WHAT'S INSIDE
OF PEOPLE... OR WHAT
COULD BE THERE.
GOOD AND BAD.

SOMETIMES I
WISH I COULDN'T.

WHICH IS WHY I
TRY NOT TO LOOK
DIRECTLY AT THE
TWO OF THEM.

I'VE ALREADY SEEN
WHAT MAY HAPPEN
TO ANTHONY.

THE ONE WITH THE BEARD IS ANDRE TOULON. AT ONE POINT HE WAS THE WORLD'S GREATEST PUPPETEER.

HE USED AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN TECHNIQUE TO REVIVE THE SOULS OF HIS FRIENDS INTO HIS PUPPETS.

HE HAS DIED A FEW TIMES, BUT ALWAYS FINDS A WAY BACK.

THE OTHER ONE--

--THE ONE WITH THE BLACK HAIR AND WOODEN LEGS--

--IS ANTHONY, THE MOST RECENT MASTER OF TOULON'S PUPPETS.

HE ACTUALLY LED THEM IN A BATTLE AGAINST AN EVIL EGYPTIAN GOD NAMED ANAPA WHO TRIED TO INVADE OUR WORLD.

AND PEOPLE THINK I'M CRAZY.

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN, ANTHONY?

BETTER. MUCH BETTER, ACTUALLY.

I STILL HAVE MY ANXIETIES, BUT BEING MOVED FROM SOLITARY IS A DEFINITE STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES I START TO THINK THAT EVERYTHING WE DID... EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED WITH THE PUPPETS... WAS JUST UP HERE, BUT YOU BEING HERE PROVES IT WASN'T.



WHERE HAVE YOU
BEEN? IT'S BEEN OVER
A YEAR SINCE YOU HEADED
OFF TO PETERSTOWN. HOW
DID THAT GO?

IT WENT THE
ONLY WAY THAT TRYING
TO REASON WITH A CULT
WHO ACTUALLY WANTS
TO BECOME WOODEN
PEOPLE CAN GO.

BADLY.

I'M
SORRY TO
HEAR THAT.

I DID
WHAT I COULD,
BUT IT WASN'T
ENOUGH.

I DID
FREE THEM FROM
THEIR MASTER,
HOWEVER... SO AT
LEAST THERE IS
THAT.

TOLON DID DEFEAT
THE CULT LEADER, BUT
ANAPA HAS HIM NOW...

...WHICH I'M SURE
IS A BAD THING.

DID I FORGET TO MENTION
ANAPA SURVIVED THEIR
BATTLE BY PUTTING HIS
SOUL INTO A PUPPET?
THAT'S IMPORTANT!



AND WHAT OF THE REST OF THE PUPPETS? HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?

NO.

I-I KNOW WHERE THEY ARE.

YOU HOW?

YOU KNOW, I SEE THINGS.

CEDAR, DEAR. LOVELY TO SEE YOU AGAIN. COME, SIT WITH US.

...THANKS.

A MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF "THE COLLECTOR" HAS THEM.

HE USED THEM TO KILL A BUNCH OF PEOPLE LAST NIGHT.

HE'S WAY OLDER THAN HE LOOKS. HE HAS USED YOUR SERUM TO KEEP HIMSELF ALIVE FOR A LONG TIME.

IF THAT'S TRUE, HE IS NOT SOMEONE I WISH TO LEAVE THEM WITH.

WHERE CAN I FIND THIS COLLECTOR?

A MANSION...
NOT FAR FROM THE
BODEGA BAY INN.









EVERYONE!

WELCOME TO
THE BODEGA
BAY INN!

MY NAME
IS CINDY, THIS IS MY
HUSBAND JOHN. WE ARE
SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU
STAYING WITH US!

YOU ARE
IN ROOM 312.
IT'S UP THE STAIRS
TO THE RIGHT. OUR
BELLHOP IS ON
BREAK, SO LET ME
HELP YOU WITH YOUR BAGS.

THAT WOULD
BE VERY NICE.
THANK YOU.

YEAH,
THIS HOTEL
HAS A LOT OF
HISTORY.

I HEARD
IT WAS
HAUNTED.

WELL, WE DON'T LIKE
TO PROMOTE THAT, BUT
THERE HAVE BEEN
PLUMORS OF EVERY-
THING FROM GHOSTS
TO ZOMBIES TO
KILLER DOLLS IN
THIS PLACE.

IT ALL
SOUNDS KIND
OF SILLY
TO ME.

I HAVEN'T
SEEN ANYTHING
HERE TO MAKE
ME BELIEVE--



WHAT A SHAME.



THEY
KILLED
JOHN.

THEY'RE
KILLING A LOT
MORE THAN
JUST YOUR
HUSBAND.











Afterward...

So here it is. The final story arc for Action Lab's Puppet Master comic. Whether you've been with us since the beginning (thanks for your support!) or this is your first issue (welcome to the show!), I truly hope you enjoyed this comic.

To be completely honest, Puppet Master has been a lifelong obsession for me. The first film came out when I was eight years old. I can't recall if I saw it right away or not, but I do know that I saw part two when it a "new release" at our local video store. My friends and I wore that VHS tape out over the years!

That's the thing about these movies: we loved them! Back then, it was more than just sitting down, watching a movie, and moving on. We would get deep into them. We knew the continuity. We would speculate on backstories that were never expressly told. We would argue over which puppet was the best (Pinhead, for those keeping score). For us, these movies were an experience.

Jump ahead to 2014, a full 25 years after the first movie was released, and I did the same thing we did back then: I watched the full franchise in order. Granted, by 2014 there were ten movies in the series, and due to being an adult with a family and a job, it took me a week or two rather than a night or two... but I did it. And I loved it just as much in 2014 as I did in 1996. The creative kills, the amazing puppet designs. It was everything my little horror-loving heart could want.

But there were gaps. A jump in continuity here, an unanswered question there. These little things that bothered me growing up were still there, but now I had 10 years of comic writing experience under my belt, and could view the full franchise with a writer's eye. So I reached out to Full Moon to humbly ask if they would license the comic rights. Thankfully, they liked my pitch and said yes.

So I was off to the races! I still couldn't believe it. Here I was, giving back to a franchise that meant so much to my friends and I growing up. A film series that helped craft my love for the horror genre in the first place, and I was getting to play in that world!

And now we are at the end, at the curtain call. I knew it was coming. It was a three year deal. It sucks, but I'm proud of the work I was able to do. I'm proud of the stories I got to tell, and I'm proud of the artists I got to work with. It truly was an honor.

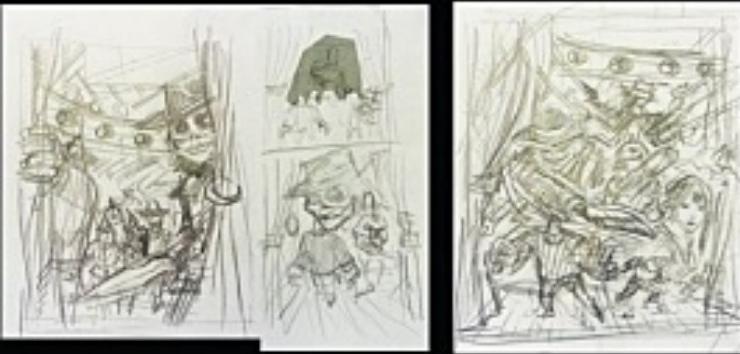
Thank you to Action Lab for helping out with the licensing and publishing of this book. Thank you to Charles Band and Full Moon for being so open to the stories I wanted to tell. And thank you all for reading them!

We've still got two more issues to go before we close that curtain. So stick around. It's almost over... but this finale is just getting started!

- Shawn Gabborin

PANEL ZONE: A look behind the curtain at the cover creation with Daniel J. Logan!

Shawn wanted an iconic image with the main puppets for this finale that could work as a TPB cover as well. from the beginning I thought incorporating a stage theme would be cool.



Cleaned up inks.

Layout/rough pencil on 11x17 copy paper.



The rad colors by
Yann Perrelet!

